

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

OPPOSITION TO H.J. RES. 24, DISAPPROVING THE ACTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COUNCIL IN APPROVING THE LOCAL RESIDENT VOTING RIGHTS AMENDMENT ACT OF 2022

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 9, 2023

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak against the House Republican's effort to block the expansion of voting rights for the people of Washington D.C. This absurd resolution is a clear attempt to block 100,000 residents in D.C. from having access to the ballot box. Our vote is our voice, and it must be defended as a fundamental right for all Americans. Fifty-eight years ago, foot soldiers in my hometown of Selma, Alabama put their lives on the line to ensure that Black Americans could participate in the political process. But sadly, old battles have become new again.

House Republicans are trying to undermine the efforts of those who sacrificed their lives by rushing legislation to the floor that would prevent DC residents from being able to use their voice to make decisions that will impact their everyday lives. This is why I will reintroduce the John Robert Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act because it will protect voters by barring discriminatory voting practices. It is our duty to ensure that every American can exercise their right to vote. I strongly urge my colleague to vote against this voter suppression legislation.

CONGRATULATING THE CITY OF WEST COVINA ON BEING NAMED 3RD SAFEST CITY IN THE U.S.

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 9, 2023

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the City of West Covina on being named one of the safest cities in the United States. The announcement of this recognition comes just as the City of West Covina is celebrating its 100th anniversary.

According to a MoneyGeek study published last month, West Covina is ranked the 3rd safest among cities with a population over 100,000. MoneyGeek's annual analysis looked at the most recent FBI crime statistics to estimate the cost of crime in 263 cities across the U.S. The analysis paired reported crime statistics with academic research on the societal costs of different types of crimes to estimate the cost of crime for each city.

While the national average cost of crime per capita in U.S. cities is \$1,836, in West Covina it is \$181, and while the national average for violent crimes is over 560 crimes per 100,000 residents, West Covina has a rate around 49 per 100,000 residents.

Incorporated in 1923, West Covina was an agricultural community with orange groves and walnut groves that was turned into a bedroom community.

After receiving a request last year from the city, I was very proud to secure \$7,000,000 in FY23 Community Project Funding for pedestrian handicap accessibility and signal synchronization improvements along Azusa Avenue, a central corridor with the city limits of West Covina. It has been my honor to represent this thriving community in Congress for the past 10 years, and I will continue fighting to deliver federal dollars to meet the needs of the city and all residents.

I extend my hearty congratulations to Mayor Rosario Diaz and all distinguished members of the city council, City Manager David Carmany and the rest of the hard-working city staff, Police Chief Richard Bell and the entire courageous West Covina Police Department, and to the wonderful residents of West Covina. May their great city continue to be safe. God Bless.

TRIBUTE TO THE ROTARY CLUB OF BURBANK

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 9, 2023

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Rotary Club of Burbank upon its centennial anniversary.

The Rotary Club of Burbank began in 1923 as a local service club that provided professional business members with varied backgrounds the opportunity to network, exchange ideas and form lifelong friendships. Over time, as Rotary's vision gradually expanded to humanitarian services, members began to address challenges locally and globally, partaking in the weekly Tuesday gatherings where information would be shared about community service projects in the city, nonprofit organizations, and schools.

Over the years, the Rotary Club of Burbank has been unwavering in its dedication to serving people in the Burbank community and beyond. The organization has provided humanitarian assistance worldwide, including hands-on support and financial aid to seniors and children in Costa Rica, Mexico, Peru, and Puerto Rico.

Local notable organizations that the Rotary Club of Burbank and its foundation, the Burbank Rotary Foundation, established in 1980, have supported include the Boys & Girls Club of Burbank and Greater East Valley, Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center, Home Again Los Angeles, and Burbank Temporary Aid Center. Additionally, the club has provided abundant support to teachers and students in Burbank through the Student of the Month program and the Teachers of Excellence program.

At its 100-year celebration, the Rotary Club of Burbank will recognize two families for their

dedicated support. These are the Taylor family, which has been active in the organization for decades, and is the only family that has had three generations of club presidents, Glen, Darrell and Jonathan, and the Rubinfeld family, which boasts Nat Rubinfeld as the current longest tenured member of the club.

It is a pleasure to honor the Rotary Club of Burbank upon their anniversary of one hundred years of outstanding and dedicated service to the Burbank community and the greater global community. I ask all Members to join me in commending their efforts.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INSULAR AREA MEDICAID PARITY ACT

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLÁN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 9, 2023

Mr. SABLÁN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce the Insular Area Medicaid Parity Act. This legislation seeks to protect the continued delivery of critical healthcare services to Americans in all corners of our Nation by eliminating the general Medicaid funding limitations for territories of the United States.

The Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands are subject to a hard, statutory limit on federal Medicaid support, unlike the 50 states and the District of Columbia. This cap means that preventive care and treatment for the poorest Americans in the insular areas will always be less available than for Americans elsewhere.

Congress has also acknowledged this inequity. We acted to provide more Medicaid funding for the insular areas by substantially lifting the cap through P.L. 116-94, Further Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020. Provisions in P.L. 116-127, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act created equity between the states and the insular areas with respect to the increase in the federal-local match for Medicaid. Families First, also, provided additional federal dollars for the insular area Medicaid programs. Most recently, P.L. 117-328, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023, made permanent the 83 percent federal match for Medicaid for the smaller territories.

The Insular Area Medicaid Parity Act furthers this progress by creating an enduring policy that safeguards the health of the poorest Americans in our insular areas. By repealing the cap, we will not only ensure that there are sufficient resources to address the ongoing pandemic, but also set up the healthcare systems in the insular areas to respond to the next public health challenge, whatever it may be. Most important of all, we will ensure that day-after-day and year-by-year, those with the smallest incomes and no access to other insurance receive the care that will keep them healthy and help ward off debilitating disease.

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